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FREE LIBRARIES
AND
NEWSROOMS

BY

J. D. MULLINS

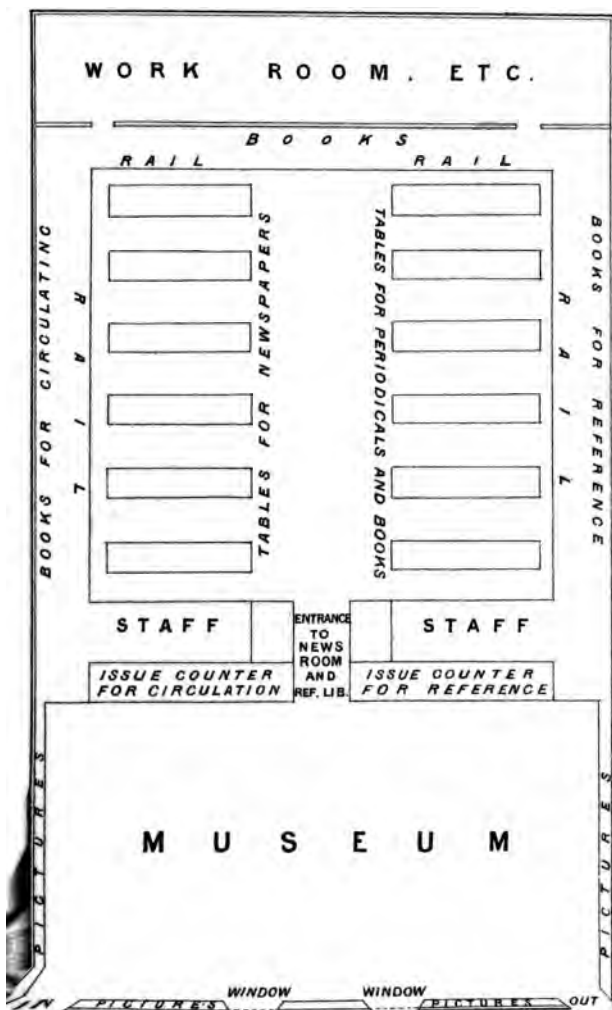
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PREFACE.

The writer has for some time past been constantly receiving applications from various parts of the country for particulars as to the Formation and Management of Free Libraries. A strong desire for their extension, as well as courtesy to the persons applying, have compelled him to write various letters, giving information and advice to the best of his ability. The following pages are simply a summary of these letters. There is a great need for an able popular Manual on the subject: for this he regrets that he has neither the time nor the power. These notes are published in the hope that some more competent person may be induced to prepare a more complete and valuable guide to the foundation and management of the greatest educational machinery of our age.



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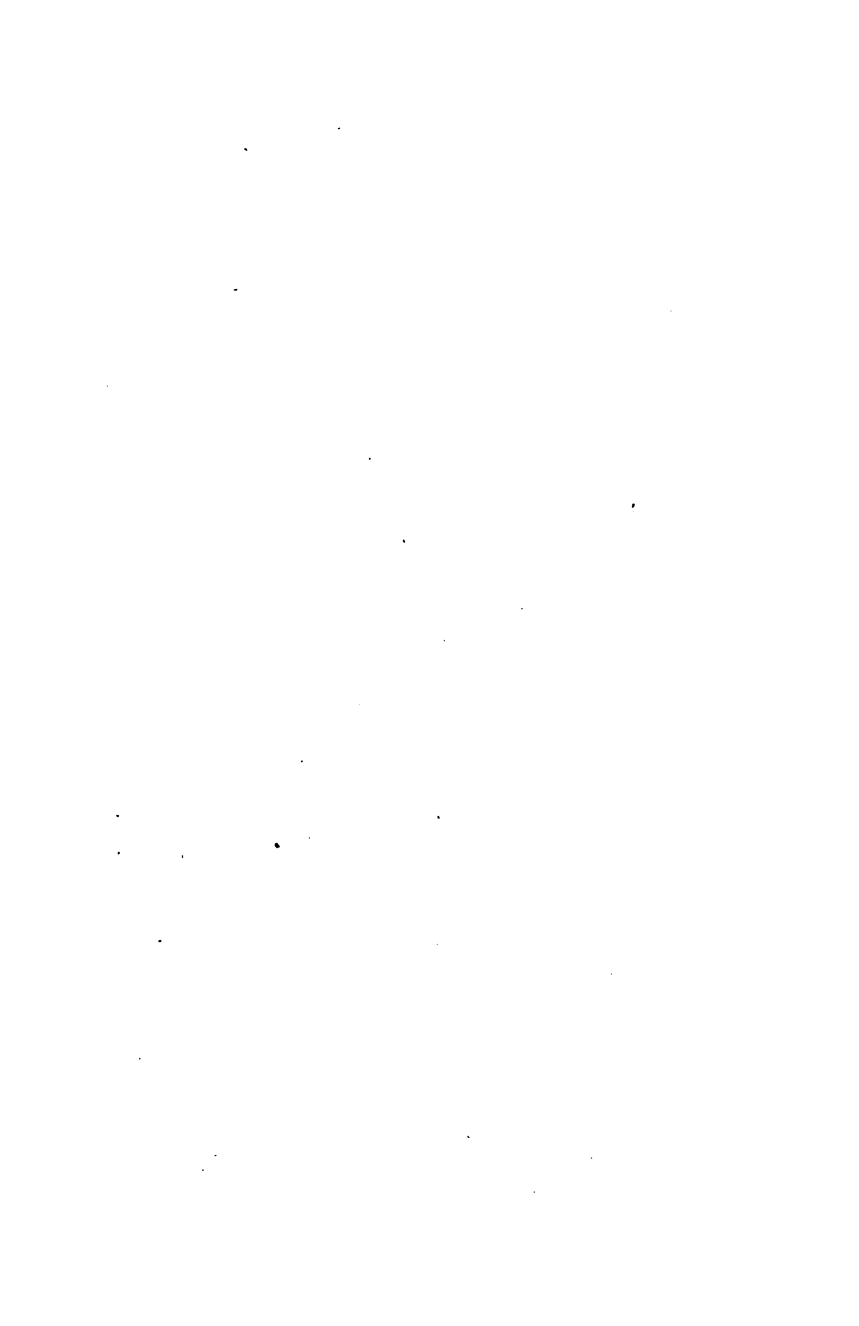
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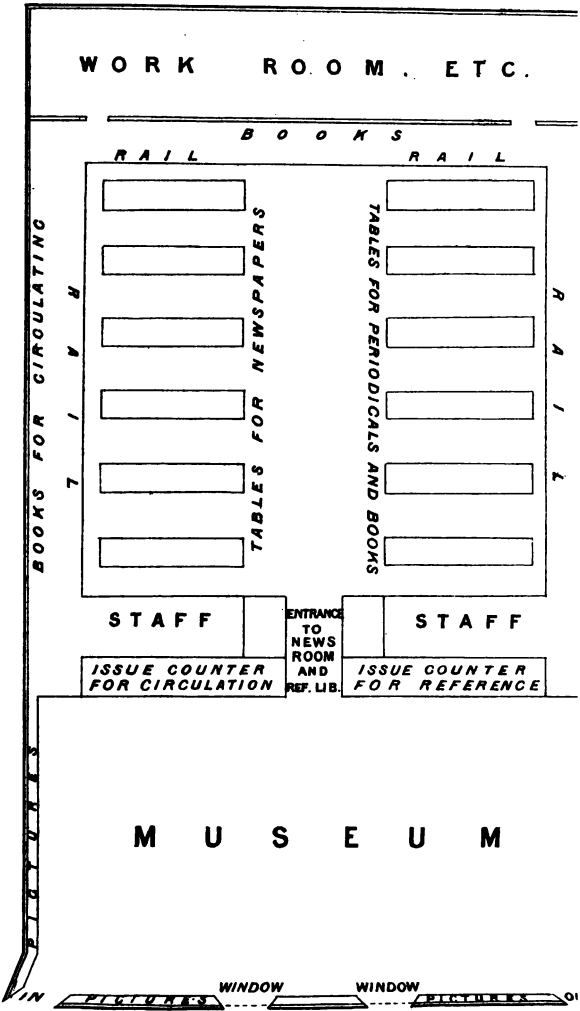








W O R K R O O M . E T C .



LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

LIBRARY

1967-1968

LIBRARY

1973

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It mentions the use of both traditional and modern technologies to gather information from different sources.

3. The third part describes the process of interpreting the collected data and drawing meaningful conclusions. It highlights the need for a systematic approach to data analysis to avoid biases and errors.

4. The fourth part discusses the challenges faced in the process of data collection and analysis. It mentions issues such as data quality, availability, and the complexity of the data itself.

5. The fifth part provides recommendations for improving the data collection and analysis process. It suggests implementing robust data management systems and training staff to handle data effectively.

6. The sixth part concludes the document by summarizing the key findings and reiterating the importance of data in decision-making.

7. The seventh part includes a list of references and sources used in the document.

8. The eighth part contains a list of appendices and supplementary materials.

9. The ninth part includes a list of figures and tables.

10. The tenth part contains a list of footnotes and additional information.

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FREE LIBRARIES

AND

NEWSROOMS:

THEIR

FORMATION AND MANAGEMENT.

BY

J. D. MULLINS,

CHIEF LIBRARIAN, BIRMINGHAM FREE LIBRARIES.

[Read at the Meeting of the National Association for the Promotion
of Social Science at Birmingham, 1868.]

○ LONDON:

HENRY SOTHERAN AND CO., 136, STRAND.

1869.

1875, Oct. 4.

Gift of
George Dexter,
of Cambridge.
(26. 26. 1858.)

P R E F A C E.

The writer has for some time past been constantly receiving applications from various parts of the country for particulars as to the Formation and Management of Free Libraries. A strong desire for their extension, as well as courtesy to the persons applying, have compelled him to write various letters, giving information and advice to the best of his ability. The following pages are simply a summary of these letters. There is a great need for an able popular Manual on the subject: for this he regrets that he has neither the time nor the power. These notes are published in the hope that some more competent person may be induced to prepare a more complete and valuable guide to the foundation and management of the greatest educational machinery of our age.



SUMMARY OF CONTENTS.

Necessity for Free Libraries and Newsrooms. Endowed Libraries. Subscription Libraries. Parochial Libraries. The Free Libraries Act and its Author. The Adoption of the Act by Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, etc. How are these Institutions Worked, and how are they Used? Newsrooms: their Uses. List of Papers, Periodicals, etc. Danger of introducing Denominational Papers, etc. The Lending Libraries: their Use; character of Books suitable for them. The Reference Department: its Use, etc. How to get the Act adopted. Style of Building for a Library, etc. Plan for small Towns of a Library, Newsroom, and Museum in one Chamber. How to Catalogue Libraries for Popular Use. Conclusion.

APPENDIX I. The Free Libraries Act and Amendment.

„ II. Rules, Regulations, and Forms for Free Libraries.



WORK ROOM . ETC.

BOOKS

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BOOKS FOR CIRCULATING

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TABLES FOR NEWSPAPERS

TABLES FOR PERIODICALS AND BOOKS

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STAFF

ENTRANCE
TO
NEWS
ROOM
AND
REF. LIB.

STAFF

ISSUE COUNTER
FOR CIRCULATION

ISSUE COUNTER
FOR REFERENCE

MUSEUM

PICTURES

PICTURES WINDOW WINDOW PICTURES

used. Let it be distinctly understood that no sneer is here intended at the kindly efforts which have been made to found Parish Libraries ; but their promoters have admitted that they have been used rather by the better class of their people, who, having books, etc., of their own, could have done very well without the Library, and have failed to attract, to any considerable extent, the persons for whom they were specially intended.

There are some very noble traits in the character of the rough working Englishman. He cannot go to, nor use, any Newsroom or Library in connection with a church or chapel, without feeling that it pledges him more or less to being religious. Now the mass of labouring men are not what is called religious ; but they hold to an unconscious paraphrase of religion in what they call fairness—to work fair, to speak fair, even to fight fair, is their version of righteousness ; and with all our faults, the last thing that occurs to a healthy Englishman is to play the hypocrite, or pretend to be religious for any purpose whatever.

With the history of Free Libraries, established by Corporations and supported by rates, the name of William Ewart is inseparably connected. His motion in 1848 for a Parliamentary Committee on Public Libraries led to an exposure of the deficiencies of this country, even as compared with others ; of the need for an ampler supply of books, and for easier access to the Libraries containing them. Much very curious and interesting information may be gathered from the Report issued by this Committee, and from the valuable History of Libraries, by Edwards. For our purpose at present, it is enough to say that Mr. Ewart followed up his first success by obtaining the various Acts and Amendments on Libraries from 1850 to 1867.

To Manchester belongs the honour of first adopting the Act, and to Manchester certainly credit is due for the most extended use and most thorough organization of these Institutions. It should be stated in praise of her citizens that they have not only granted the full allowance of one penny in the pound of their rates, but have supplemented the same with magnificent gifts. At Liverpool even more handsome donations have been given, in addition to the rates; the costly structure which contains the Library and Museum being the present of one of her grateful sons. In Birmingham the Corporation has spent nearly thirty thousand pounds in building and furnishing, and spends four thousand per annum in maintaining her Libraries and Newsrooms. Here all seems to have been done by the Corporation alone. While the town is, and well may be, proud of these Institutions, either from lack of means or opportunity none of the merchants or gentry seem to have helped in the work as in the other places named.

There are also Free Libraries at Airdrie, Blackburn, Bolton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Coventry, Dundee, Leamington, Norwich, Nottingham, Oxford, Salford, Sheffield, and Walsall.

How are these Institutions worked; and how are they used?

THE NEWSROOM.

First, the Newsrooms. These are essential. They are the first step of the ladder. With the mass of men the practice of reading commences with the Newspaper and the Periodical. Now it is not fair to assume that the only purpose the Newsroom serves is to keep men posted *up in the latest style* of murder or the newest form of *swindling*. The various questions of the day—political, social, and moral—are in the various papers discussed by

able men from their different points of view ; and the reading of these articles must induce thought, tend to lessen conceit and ignorance, and lead to sound judgment. The opinion of a man of one newspaper—who gets all his information from one side—is not worth much.

Take a day in these Newsrooms. They open at nine in the morning ; by this time there is a crowd of men and lads round the doors—artizans, clerks, labourers, many of them out of employ, waiting to see the advertisements. The Newsroom either helps them to work or serves as a resource in the weary hours of waiting—a resource cheaper, and in other respects much better, than the tavern. At ten, with the London papers, comes another class—tradesmen and persons of small income, to whom a pound or other subscription to a Newsroom would be out of the question, but who take the two or three shillings per annum they pay in rates out in reading for themselves and families, which certainly does them no harm ; nay, they enrich themselves at very little cost, and yet leave abundant provision for poorer men behind ; for it should always be remembered in dealing with this matter, that the Library rate is not like the Poor Rate and some other taxes, illimitable : it cannot go beyond one penny in the pound, so that each rate-payer can estimate exactly what it will cost him, and judge whether the expense is serious enough to justify opposition to a movement that has resulted in benefit wherever it has been permitted. At mid-day the working men crowd in again, giving half the dinner hour to the mind. All day long the rooms are well used, and at night are crowded. Men who otherwise would confine their reading to the Police News, or murder made easy, and similar garbage, get the best of the current litera-

ture. The one room in view is used by more than two thousand men daily; multiply these rooms and the result is incalculable. The charm of the place is its absolute freedom. While it is used most largely by the poorer classes, yet many of the prosperous are there as well. There is perfect equality, no favour, and no jealousy; and though used chiefly by the comparatively uneducated, the order and quietness of the place cannot be surpassed. The Room is handsome, lofty, and well furnished. It is remarked that the men in corduroy are treated as gentlemen, and they behave as such. It is quite possible that a barn in a back-slum would not be so successful; if gin-palaces and the like are brilliant and handsome, why should the opposition be enamoured of the dingy and the mean? Provide your free News-room in a good thoroughfare, let it be its own invitation, keep it open till ten at night, and it will do more to close objectionable places and break vicious habits than any number of police. In providing the newspapers and periodicals, be liberal; all, or as many of the following as you can afford, will be acceptable:—**Daily**—Times, Pall Mall Gazette, Daily News, Standard, Daily Telegraph, Morning Star; the Local Papers. **Weekly**—All the Year Round, Army and Navy Gazette, Athenæum, Australasian, Builder, Chambers's Journal, Civil Service Gazette, Dublin Freeman, Economist, Engineer, Engineering, Examiner, Fun, Gardener's Chronicle, Harper's Weekly (American), Illustrated London News, Illustrated Times, London Review, Mechanic's Magazine, Mining Journal, Notes and Queries, Once a Week, Punch, Public Opinion, Saturday Review, Scientific American, Scotsman, Spectator. **Monthly**—Annals of Natural History, Argosy, Art Journal, Blackwood's Magazine, *British Controversialist*, Broadway, Cassell's Magazine,

Cornhill Magazine, Contemporary Review, Fortnightly Review, Fraser's Magazine, Gentleman's Magazine, Good Words, Leisure Hour, London Society, Macmillan's Magazine, People's Magazine, Philosophical Magazine, Saint Paul's, and the Student or Intellectual Observer. Quarterly—Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, Anthropological Review and Journal of the Anthropological Society of London. British Quarterly Review, Dublin Review, Edinburgh Review, Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society, Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science, North British Review, Popular Science Review, Quarterly Review, Journal of the Statistical Society of London, and Westminster Review.

Beware, unless your funds are very ample, of introducing denominational papers. You may innocently commence with the Guardian, and find, as the result, that the Record, the Church and State Review, the Watchman, the Wesleyan Times, and other representative papers will be required, even to the Millennial Star and the Pot of Manna. It does *not* follow because you do not supply professedly religious papers that what you do supply is irreligious. We have now to a very large extent what Dr. Arnold said was the want of his day—not so much articles on religious subjects as articles on common subjects with a decidedly Christian tone. The periodical and newspaper literature of to-day is in this respect a great improvement on the past, and may fairly be rejoiced over. The Christianity that used to be confined to churches and conventicles now runs down our streets, and while it is none the worse for fresh air, the streets are all the better for its presence.

THE LENDING LIBRARY.

In the same Newsroom which we have been describing is carried on the *Lending Library*. From ten in the morning till nine at night persons of all classes pass in and out to borrow, return, or exchange Books, the issue reaching a thousand volumes daily; a fair proportion being Theology, Philosophy, History, Travel, Art, Science, to a majority of works in Poetry, Fiction, etc.

Well, yes, Fiction, though all the statistics unduly exaggerate this feature; for the mass of books in History, Art, etc., are in one volume, while the mass of novels are in three volumes; so that the issue of one thousand works in Fiction appears by the side of the issue of one thousand others magnified to three times its real size. But taking it at its worst, is it so very serious, after all, that a man who works hard and has plenty of care should be privileged to forget it all for a few hours while on a journey with Swift to Lilliput, with Kingsley Westward Ho! with the Dodd Family Abroad, with Thackeray, or in Dickens-land? If the Library did nothing else than give an occasional hour of relief and pleasure to those who have but little of it, it would have done a good work. But it does much more than this.—The highest class of reading is well in demand; Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, Locke, Newton, Jeremy Taylor, Dugald Stewart, Robert Hall, Hallam, Macaulay, Carlyle, are rapidly becoming known in a new world—a world they never thought to reach. A blacksmith asks for Euclid, and a butcher complains that the *Odyssey* is always out. The lads go in for Cooper and Scott and Tom Brown, and keep up a strong demand for *Natural History*, and the Battles of the British Army and Navy. Austen, Edgeworth, Bremer and others wait

on the lasses ; while Mary Howitt and Hans Christian Andersen light up many a dark home and sad young life with glimpses of other worlds and better things.

In the formation of *Lending Libraries* it is not necessary or desirable to provide expensive works. These, if bought or given, should be kept for the *Reference Department*. If taken home and injured in any way the cost of replacing would make the Library a trouble to the borrower or to his guarantor. A collection of books suitable in every way and for all classes may be obtained at an average cost of half-a-crown a volume. Get Constable's Miscellany, 82 vols. ; Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia, 132 vols. ; Murray's Family Library, 80 vols. ; the Traveller's Library, 60 vols. ; the Library of Entertaining Knowledge, 48 vols. ; the Edinburgh Cabinet Library, 88 vols. ; Jardine's Naturalist's Library, 40 vols. ; Johnson's Poets, 75 vols. ; Nichol's Poets, 42 vols. ; Chambers's Tracts, 20 vols. ; Select Library of Fiction, 182 vols. ; Knight's Weekly Volumes, 95 parts ; Bohn's Antiquarian, Ecclesiastical, Historical, Illustrated, Standard, and other Libraries ; Weale's Scientific and Educational Series ; cheap editions of the writings of Guthrie, F. W. Robertson, Caird, Stanley, Mill, Hume, Gibbon, Goldsmith, Macaulay, Carlyle, Hugh Miller, Austen, Scott, Cooper, James, Dickens, etc. Have sets of the Periodicals—Chambers' Journal, Household Words, All the Year Round, Good Words, Leisure Hour, Once a Week, and the like. Have, as your means will allow, the cheap popular manuals of Astronomy, Botany, Chemistry, Geology, etc., and you have a Library good enough for a prince, and none too good for your working man. It will occur to an outsider that the sets of Constable, Lardner, etc., are somewhat too old for a modern Library ; but it will be found that though a little old

they are by no means obsolete, but still contain the best and in many cases the only good concise works on the subjects of which they treat. They are essential for both the *Reference* and *Lending* Libraries. It is found that as a rule the books are taken remarkable care of, and that if damaged or lost they are willingly paid for or replaced. At Birmingham, out of an issue of 262,000 volumes in 1867, only 22 were lost!

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

There is yet another department to notice — the *Reference Library*. This is not merely a place for dictionaries, atlases, and so on, although, of course, it contains them; but is called the “Reference Library” because the books in it may not be taken away, but must be used on the premises. To many persons, as we have said, a quiet place to read in is more difficult to obtain than books to read. Hence, this department is largely used. Choice and costly works on the Fine Arts, on Design, on Ornament, on Colour, on Architecture, on Mechanics, Engineering, and the various Sciences are here; and the artisan or mechanic can and does study these and gets quietly the technical education so much talked of. History, Travel, Nature, Law, Poetry, Theology are here magnificently illustrated, and their lessons gladly learned.


It seems impossible to visit these places and see how they are used without expressions of surprise at their success and of enthusiasm in their favour. Booksellers, who feared that they would injure their trade, find that they create a taste for reading, and multiply their customers. Subscription Libraries find that the Free Libraries, so far from injuring them, serve as pioneers for *them*. Persons begin to read when they can get the *books for nothing*; the taste once created, they willingly *pay for its gratification*.

Presuming that every considerable town in the kingdom will sooner or later adopt an Act bringing in such advantages, an outline of the methods generally pursued in the formation of such Institutions may be useful. The initiative is seldom taken by the Town Council, or governing body, the members not being usually as alive to their privileges in this respect as could be wished. To apprehend and provide for the needs of the people under their care is specially the province of the local government, and when it fails to do this, it neglects the exercise of its noblest powers. Supposing the local government to suffer either from timidity or inertia, or to be under the control of persons who make it their business to stifle all that is generous with the rag of economy, the custom is to call together the ministers of religion, the teachers of the Sunday and night schools, and all other persons who desire the well-being and improvement of their fellows; these, after discussion, memorialize the Council to call the burgesses together. Meanwhile, they collect reports from the various towns having Free Libraries, and publish selections from these reports in the local newspapers and in handbills. Soothe the economists by showing them how very little it will cost them per head; and get round the gentleman who says he never reads books—he has lived all his life without Libraries and Newsrooms—and look at him! They get all the philanthropy and eloquence and truth they can bring to bear on the subject to the meeting, or they fail to get a majority. The natural resistance to new things, especially if they are good, is always strong; and carelessness or too much confidence will lose the day. In no place has the Act been adopted without much preparation and enlightenment through the concert of good and *determined* men: the Act has been rejected in several

places through premature or too hasty action ; but where it has once been adopted, it has never been repented of or rescinded.

On the adoption of the Act by the Burgesses, the governing body will appropriate,—according as it is generous or otherwise,—a half-penny or a penny in the pound of its income to the purposes of the Act. It is only fair to say that usually when the Act has once been adopted, the Town Council, seeing that the thing has to be done, has decided to do it handsomely, and the whole rate has been granted. Then a Committee, consisting half of its own members and half of the scholarly men of the neighbourhood, has been appointed, and permission has been given to borrow money for building on the security of the rate, such money to be paid off by instalments out of the yearly income.

As to the Building. To open with a poor building with a bad entrance in a back street is not the way to ensure success. To get and try to fit-up a private house for the purpose is very likely to be money wasted. A really good site in a populous thoroughfare, and a building of some character and prominence, are as necessary for the success of a Library as for the success of a saloon or a gin-palace. The building should announce itself boldly to be what it is, and should be as inviting and appear as pleasant as the places it is intended to supersede. A handsome entrance well lighted, with a passage between the entrance and the Reading Room as long as you can get, so as to keep the room quiet ; the room itself should be spacious, lofty, and well ventilated, lighted from the roof if a one-story building, or if an upper room, and if a lower room lighted by windows from six to eight feet from the ground, so as to avoid the disturbance often resulting from view of the street, and



also to secure handy wall-space for book-shelves, maps, pictures, and the like. As to the number of rooms, the more rooms, the more difficult the task of oversight, and the greater the number of assistants required. To erect a building of many rooms or several stories, put a Museum in one, a Library in another, and a Newsroom in a third, and to set one man to look after the whole, is not wise, as he will often be required in the three places at once. Have as many rooms as you please, if you can place an officer or two in each; but as the majority of places which have yet to form Libraries, etc., will have but moderate means, it is worth while to try and point out how to make the most of these. There seems to be no great difficulty in having in one good room a Newsroom, Lending and Reference Libraries, and a Museum. (*See Plan at front.*)

The borrowers of books, boys, messengers, etc., on this plan only just enter the ante-chamber of the building, and get served; the readers on the premises pass on into a quieter part, and pursue their studies undisturbed; while the whole is under the eye of the Librarian. The floor should be matted, and quietness and cleanliness be very firmly but civilly enforced. Let your officers be well-bred men and youths; have no flashy young swells who will treat the poorer borrowers as if they were paupers. Let them understand that there is to be no respect of persons; if additional courtesy and favour are to be shown anywhere they should be to the poorest. There is a power in a fair and courteous administration that is irresistible. If to knowledge, courtesy and firmness, your Librarian can add a sympathy with the men who need information, and a pride in helping them, he will fill a very happy office, and his Library will be a great success.

THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

The mass of borrowers at the Lending Libraries will be poor people; the Library will be of little use to them without a Catalogue. This must be had for a few pence or they will not buy it; it must be simple or they will not be able to use it. The following method has been found to work well:—

Divide the books in classes, thus—

- A. THEOLOGY and PHILOSOPHY.
- B. BIOGRAPHY.
- C. HISTORY and TRAVELS.
- D. LAW, POLITICS, and POLITICAL ECONOMY.
- E. NATURAL HISTORY.
- F. ARTS and SCIENCES.
- G. POETRY and the DRAMA.
- H. FICTION.
- I. MISCELLANEOUS.
- J. JUVENILE BOOKS.

Brevity is necessary to cheapness; hence you enter each work but once, and then by the word under which it is most likely to be looked for.

In Theology and Philosophy the name of the author is more important than the subject; hence the A Section is catalogued by itself, and of course alphabetically under the author where the author is given; and where there is no author, under the title, as—

Guthrie (J.) Speaking to the Heart . 21 A
 Heaven our Home 85 A

In Biography, History, Voyages, and Travels, the *subject of the Biography*, and the country or place written of, *are specially the subjects of inquiry*; hence these *sections should be catalogued under their subjects*. In

Law, Politics, and Political Economy, the authors prevail. In Arts, Sciences, and Natural History, the subject. In Fiction, Poetry, etc., the author is uppermost again. A specimen of a catalogue after this fashion is appended:—

A ALEXANDER the Great, Life of, by Williams	1 B
Ali Pasha, Life of, by Davenport	2 B
Anne Boleyn, Memoirs of, by Benger	202 B
Anson (Lord) Life of, by Barrow	200 B
Apostles, Lives of the, by Cave	44 B
Bacon (Lord) Life of, by Dixon	370 B
Bedell (W.) Life of, by Hone	25 B
Biography of Converts from Infidelity, by Crichton	52 B
Biography of British Painters, Sculptors, and Architects, by A. Cunningham	114 B

Vol. 1.—Hogarth. Wilson. Reynolds. Gainsborough.

Vol. 2.—West. Blake. Opie. Morland. Bird. Fuseli. Barry.

Vol. 3.—Gibbons. Roubilliac. Wilton. Banks. Nollekens.

Vol. 4.—Wykeham. Jones. Wren. Vanbrugh. Gibbs. Kent. Burlington.
Chambers.

Vol. 5.—Jamesone. Ramsay. Romney. Runciman. Copley. Mortimer.
Raeburn. Hopner. Owen. Harlow. Bonington.

Vol. 6.—Cosway. Allan. Northcote. Beaumont. Lawrence. Jackson.
Liverseege. Burnet.

Biography, Footprints of Famous Men, by Edgar 15 B

Printed like it in Brevier and Nonpareil, and in double column, a catalogue of a considerable Library may be sold for a few pence.

For the Reference Department, where the books are more various and costly, and the readers of a somewhat different class, a fuller catalogue may be given. But here the danger is in attempting too much. The largest and most valuable libraries in England and on the Continent are greatly depreciated, so far as usefulness is concerned, by their non-possession of printed catalogues of their works. It is nearly impossible to ascertain what is in them. How greatly the value of the Library at the

British Museum would be enhanced to students and the general public if there existed a printed catalogue of its contents. The truth is that Librarians generally in their natural anxiety that the catalogue of their Library shall be an addition to the science of criticism and bibliography, have aimed at so elaborate a description of each work that the catalogue never gets printed, or if printed costs so much as to sell at a price quite out of reach of the persons frequenting Free Libraries.

It would ill become the writer to speak lightly of the valuable catalogue prepared by Dr. Crestadoro of the Manchester Reference Library, in which the entry of each work gives something like a photograph of the title-page, and adds the number of pages each work contains. All students of bibliography admire this catalogue, but few would have the courage or perseverance to imitate it. The catalogue of the Liverpool Reference Library is a handsome volume, containing a very able classification of a fine Library; but the costliness of both these works, and the character of the latter, prevent their use to any considerable extent by the common people for whom Free Libraries are specially intended. It is possible to catalogue twenty thousand volumes in such a manner as to show the student or reader at a glance all the works by any author or on any subject wanted. Every book should be entered under its author and under its title, and again under its subject; for instance, Ruskin's *Stones of Venice* would be entered under "Ruskin," "Stones of Venice," and again under "Architecture." Waring's *Masterpieces of the Exhibition* would be entered under "Waring," "Exhibition," and again under "Art." Miller's *Testimony of the Rocks* would go under "Miller," "Testimony of the Rocks," and "Geology." Warburton's *Hochelaga* would go under "Warburton," "Hochelaga," and again

under "Canada." Against these triple entries of one work are to be set the works for which one entry would suffice.

Confine the description of each work to one line, giving only the gist of the title-page and omitting its verbiage. Thus it is possible to catalogue twenty thousand volumes, which would represent about six thousand works, in a very small compass, and print the same at a very small cost.

The catalogue is in appearance a rough alphabetical list of the books, but possesses in reality all the advantages of a classified catalogue without its embarrassments. A work of the kind described will shortly be published, and then the author will probably be punished for his presumption in this matter by the exposure of its defects.

The writer would guard against the favour which he may be supposed to have for Free Libraries from his official connection with them, and would not willingly exaggerate their importance; but some interest in the matter may fairly be claimed when the results are so evident. Adopt any of the systems of primary education which have been so much discussed of late, and a generation must pass before their effect can be realized. In the work of Free Libraries you may both sow and live to reap. The lower classes do manage to read to themselves and to one another to a far greater extent than is supposed. It is not uncommon to see one man reading very laboriously and very badly to another man who cannot read at all. Go into the lowest quarters of any great town, and see the number of shops that exist for the sale of cheap periodical literature. These are proof enough of the demand, of the hunger and thirst for information. But what about the supply? Here you have the "*Mysteries of London*," and the like, tales of villainy and seduction, thrilling romances, always being continued.

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in our next. Here you have the great weekly Murder-monger, four-and-twenty columns of crime and filth for one penny. Here you have the Halfpenny Demagogue, the largest paper in the world, and all on one side. And the people feed on these for want of knowing better. Turn a pure language upon them, give them a wholesome and pleasant literature, and the statistics of existing Free Libraries prove that they will both use and value it. Visit the homes of the labouring classes; the men come home soon after six at night, get a wash and their tea. They cannot be expected always to stay at home and nurse the child—where shall they spend their few spare hours pleasantly? If there are Free Newsrooms they go to them; if not, probably to the public-house; and who can fairly blame them? We must have these Free Libraries and Newsrooms in every town. Edinburgh has just now, to the surprise and pain of her admirers, refused to adopt the Act, but she will think better of it yet. Glasgow is on the eve of a decision. Leeds, with her large resources; the great divisions of London, Islington, Marylebone, Southwark, and other places have yet to decide in favour of the Libraries Act; and, benefiting by the experience of those towns which have preceded them, to do better than them all. There have yet also to arise many wise and generous men who will choose for their life-work and their monument the formation and endowment of Libraries and Reading-rooms—mental and moral hospitals for the nation, and the best means of placing the highest and noblest works of human genius within the reach of the humble and the poor, and of raising and refining our national life.

APPENDIX I.

18^o & 19^o VICTORIÆ, CAP. LXX.

An Act for further promoting the Establishment of Free Public Libraries and Museums in Municipal Towns, and for extending it to Towns governed under Local Improvement Acts, and to Parishes. [30th *July*, 1855.]

‘WHEREAS it is expedient to amend and extend the Public Libraries Act, 1850:’ Be it therefore enacted by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

I. The Public Libraries Act, 1850, is hereby repealed; but such Repeal shall not invalidate or affect anything already done in pursuance of the same Act, and all Libraries and Museums established under that Act or the Act thereby repealed shall be considered as having been established under this Act, and the Council of any Borough which may have adopted the said Act of One thousand eight hundred and fifty, or established a Museum under the Act thereby repealed, shall have and may use and exercise all the Benefits, Privileges, and Powers given by this Act; and all Monies which have been borrowed by virtue of the said repealed Acts or either of them, and still remaining unpaid, and the Interest thereof, shall be charged on the Borough Rates, or a Rate to be assessed and recovered in the like manner as a Borough Rate to be made by virtue of this Act. 13 & 14 Vict.
c. 65. re-
pealed.

II. In citing this Act for any Purposes whatever, it shall be sufficient to use the Expression “The Public Libraries Act, 1855.” Short Title of
Act.

III. In the construction of this Act the following Words and Expressions shall, unless there be something in the Subject or Context repugnant to such Construction, have the following Meanings assigned to them respectively; that is to say, “Parish” shall mean every Place maintaining Interpreta-
tion of
Terms.

its own Poor; "Vestry" shall mean the Inhabitants of the Parish lawfully assembled in Vestry, or for any of the Purposes for which Vestries are holden, except in those Parishes in which there is a Select Vestry elected under the Act of the Fifty-ninth Year of King *George* the Third, Chapter Twelve, or under the Act of the First and Second Years of King *William* the Fourth, Chapter Sixty, or under the Provisions of any Local Act of Parliament for the Government of any Parish by Vestries, in which Parishes it shall mean such Select Vestry, and shall also mean any Body of Persons, by whatever Name distinguished, acting by virtue of any Act of Parliament, Prescription, Custom, or otherwise, as or instead of a Vestry or Select Vestry; "Ratepayers" shall mean all Persons for the Time being assessed to Rates for the Relief of the Poor of the Parish; "Overseers of the Poor" shall mean also any Persons authorized and required to make and collect the Rate for the Relief of the Poor of the Parish, and acting instead of Overseers of the Poor; "Board" shall mean the Commissioners, Trustees, or other Body of Persons, by whatever Name distinguished, for the Time being in Office and acting in the Execution of any Improvement Act, being an Act for draining, cleansing, paving, lighting, watching, or otherwise improving a Place, or for any of those Purposes; "Improvement Rates" shall mean the Rates, Tolls, Rents, Income, and other Monies whatsoever which, under the Provisions of any such Improvement Act, shall be applicable for the general Purposes of such Act.

Town Councils of certain Boroughs may adopt this Act if determined by Inhabitants.

IV. The Mayor of any Municipal Borough the Population of which, according to the then last Census thereof, shall exceed Five thousand Persons, shall, on the Request of the Town Council, convene a Public Meeting of the Burgesses of the Borough, in order to determine whether this Act shall be adopted for the Municipal Borough, and Ten Days' Notice at least of the Time, Place, and Object of the Meeting shall be given by affixing the same on or near the Door of every Church and Chapel within the Borough, and also by advertising the same in One or more of the Newspapers published or circulated within the Borough, Seven Days at least before the Day appointed

for the Meeting ; and if at such Meeting Two Thirds of such Persons as aforesaid then present shall determine that this Act ought to be adopted for the Borough, the same shall thenceforth take effect and come into operation in such Borough, and shall be carried into execution in accordance with the Laws for the Time being in force relating to the Municipal Corporation of such Borough : Provided always, that the Mayor, or, in his absence, the Chairman of the Meeting, shall cause a Minute to be made of the Resolutions of the Meeting, and shall sign the same ; and the Resolutions so signed shall be conclusive Evidence that the Meeting was duly convened, and the Vote thereat duly taken, and that the Minute contains a true Account of the Proceedings thereat.

V. The Expenses incurred in calling and holding the Meeting, whether this Act shall be adopted or not, and the Expenses of carrying this Act into execution in such Borough, may be paid out of the Borough Fund, and the Council may levy by a separate Rate, to be called a Library Rate, to be made and recoverable in the manner herein-after provided, all Monies from Time to Time necessary for defraying such Expenses ; and distinct Accounts shall be kept of the Receipts, Payments, and Liabilities of the Council with reference to the Execution of this Act.

Expenses of carrying Act into execution in a Borough to be paid out of the Borough Fund.

VI. The Board of any District, being a Place within the Limits of any Improvement Act, and having such a Population as aforesaid, shall, upon the Requisition in Writing of at least Ten Persons assessed to and paying the Improvement Rate, appoint a Time not less than Ten Days nor more than Twenty Days from the Time of receiving such Requisition for a Public Meeting of the Persons assessed to and paying such Rate in order to determine whether this Act shall be adopted for such District, and Ten Days Notice at least of the Time, Place, and Object of such Meeting shall be given, by affixing the same on or near the Door of every Church and Chapel within the District, and also by advertising the same in One or more of the Newspapers published or circulated within the District, Seven Days at least before the Day appointed for the Meeting ; and if at such Meeting Two

Board of any District within Limits of any Improvement Act may adopt this Act if determined by Inhabitants.

Thirds of such Persons as aforesaid then present shall determine that this Act ought to be adopted for the District, the same shall thenceforth take effect, and come into operation in such District, and shall be carried into effect according to the Laws for the Time being in force relating to such Board.

Expenses of carrying Act into execution to be charged on Improvement Rate.

VII. The Expenses incurred in calling and holding the Meeting, whether this Act shall be adopted or not, and the Expenses of carrying this Act into execution in any such District, shall be paid out of the Improvement Rate, and the Board may levy as Part of the Improvement Rate, or by a separate Rate to be assessed and recovered in like manner as an Improvement Rate, such Sums of Money as shall be from Time to Time necessary for defraying such Expenses; and the Board shall keep distinct Accounts of their Receipts, Payments, Credits and Liabilities with reference to the Execution of this Act, which Accounts shall be audited in the same Way as Accounts are directed to be audited under the Improvement Act.

Certain Parishes may adopt this Act with the Consent of Two Thirds of the Ratepayers.

VIII. Upon the Requisition in Writing of at least Ten Ratepayers of any Parish having such a Population as aforesaid, the Overseers of the Poor shall appoint a Time, not less than Ten Days nor more than Twenty Days from the Time of receiving such requisition, for a Public Meeting of the Ratepayers in order to determine whether this Act shall be adopted for the Parish; and Ten Days Notice at least of the Time, Place, and Object of the Meeting shall be given by affixing the same on or near the Door of every Church and Chapel within the Parish, and also by advertising the same in One or more of the Newspapers published or circulated within the Parish, Seven Days at least before the Day appointed for the Meeting; and if at such Meeting Two Thirds of the Ratepayers then present shall determine that this Act ought to be

The Vestry to appoint Commissioners for carrying the Act into execution who shall be a Body Corporate.

adopted for such Parish, the same shall come into operation in such Parish, and the Vestry shall forthwith appoint not less than Three nor more than Nine Ratepayers Commissioners for carrying the Act into execution, who shall be a Body Corporate by the Name of "The Commissioners for Public Libraries and Museums for the Parish of _____ in the County of _____," and by

that name may sue and be sued, and hold and dispose of Lands, and use a Common Seal: Provided always, that in any Parish where there shall not be a greater Population than Eight thousand Inhabitants by the then last Census, it shall be lawful for any Ten Ratepayers to deliver a Requisition by them signed, and describing their Place of Residence, to the Overseers or One of the Overseers of the said Parish, requiring the Votes of the Ratepayers at such Meeting to be taken according to the Provisions of the Act passed in the Fifty-eighth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, Chapter Sixty-nine, and the Votes at such Meeting shall thereupon be taken according to the Provisions of the said last-mentioned Act of Parliament, and not otherwise.

IX. At the Termination of every Year (the Year being reckoned from and exclusive of the Day of the First Appointment of Commissioners) a Meeting of the Vestry shall be held, at which Meeting One Third, or as nearly as may be One Third of the Commissioners, to be determined by Ballot, shall go out of Office, and the Vestry shall appoint other Commissioners in their Place, but the outgoing Commissioners may be re-elected; and the Vestry shall fill up every Vacancy among the Commissioners whether occurring by Death, Resignation, or otherwise, as soon as possible after the same occurs.

One Third of such Commissioners to go out of Office yearly and others to be appointed, &c.

X. The Commissioners shall meet at least once in every Calendar Month, and at such other Times as they think fit, at the Public Library or Museum or some other convenient Place; and any one Commissioner may summon a Special Meeting of the Commissioners by giving Three clear Days Notice in Writing to each Commissioner, specifying therein the Purpose for which the Meeting is called; and no Business shall be transacted at any Meeting of the Commissioners unless at least Two Commissioners shall be present.

General and Special Meetings of Commissioners.

XI. All Orders and Proceedings of the Commissioners shall be entered in Books to be kept by them for that Purpose, and shall be signed by the Commissioners or any Two of them; and all such Orders and Proceedings so entered and purporting to be so signed shall be deemed to be *original* Orders and Proceedings, and such Books may

Minutes of Proceedings of Commissioners to be entered in Books.

be produced and read as Evidence of all such Orders and Proceedings upon any judicial Proceeding whatsoever.

Distinct Accounts to be kept by Commissioners, and duly audited.

XII. The Commissioners shall keep distinct and regular Accounts of their Receipts, Payments, Credits, and Liabilities with reference to the Execution of this Act, which Accounts shall be audited yearly by the Poor Law Auditor, if the Accounts of the Poor Rate Expenditure of the Parish be audited by a Poor Law Auditor, but if not so audited then by Two Auditors not being Commissioners, who shall be yearly appointed by the Vestry, and the Auditor or Auditors shall report thereon, but such Report shall be laid before the Vestry by the Commissioners.

Expenses of executing Act in any Parish to be paid out of Poor Rate.

XIII. The Expenses of calling and holding the Meeting of the Ratepayers, whether this Act shall be adopted or not, and the Expenses of carrying this Act into execution in any Parish, to such Amount as shall be from Time to Time sanctioned by the Vestry, shall be paid out of a Rate to be made and recovered in like Manner as a Poor Rate, except that every Person occupying Lands used as Arable, Meadow, or Pasture Ground only, or as Woodlands, or Market Gardens or Nursery Grounds, shall be rated in respect of the same in the Proportion of One Third Part only of the full net annual Value thereof respectively; the Vestry to be called for the Purpose of sanctioning the Amount shall be convened in the Manner usual in the Parish; the Amount for the Time being proposed to be raised for such Expenses shall be expressed in the Notice convening the Vestry, and shall be paid, according to the Order of the Vestry, to such Person as shall be appointed by the Commissioners to receive the same: Provided always, that in the Notices requiring the Payment of the Rate there shall be stated the Proportion which the Amount to be thereby raised for the Purposes of this Act shall bear to the total Amount of the Rate.

Vestries of Two or more neighbouring Parishes may adopt the Act.

XIV. The Vestries of any Two or more neighbouring Parishes having according to the then last Census an aggregate Population exceeding Five thousand Persons may adopt this Act, in like manner as if the Population of each of those Parishes according to the then last Census exceeded Five thousand and may concur in carrying the same into execution in such Parishes for such Time as they

shall mutually agree : and such Vestries may decide that a Public Library or Museum, or both, shall be erected in any One of such Parishes, and that the Expenses of carrying this Act into execution with reference to the same shall be borne by such Parishes in such Proportions as such Vestries shall mutually approve ; the Proportion for each of such Parishes of such Expenses shall be paid out of the Monies to be raised for the Relief of the Poor of the same respective Parishes accordingly ; but no more than Three Commissioners shall be appointed for each Parish ; and the Commissioners so appointed for each of such Parishes shall in the Management of the said Public Library and Museum form One Body of Commissioners, and shall act accordingly in the Execution of this Act ; and the Accounts of the Commissioners shall be examined and reported on by the Auditor or Auditors of such Parishes ; and the surplus Money at the Disposal as aforesaid of such Commissioners shall be paid to the Overseers of such Parishes respectively, in the Proportion in which such Parishes shall be liable to such Expenses.

XV. The Amount of the Rate to be levied in any Borough, District, or Parish in any One Year for the Purposes of this Act shall not exceed the Sum of One Penny in the Pound ; and for the Purposes of the Library Rate all the Clauses of the Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, with respect to the Manner of making Rates, to the Appeal to be made against any Rate, and to the Recovery of Rates, shall be incorporated with this Act ; and whenever the Words " Special Act " occur in the Act so incorporated they shall mean " The Public Libraries Act, 1855 ; " the Accounts of the said Board and Commissioners respectively with reference to the Execution of this Act shall at all reasonable Times be open, without Charge, to the Inspection of every Person rated to the Improvement Rate or to the Rates for the Relief of the Poor of the Parish, as the Case may be, who may make Copies of or Extracts from such Accounts, without paying for the same ; and in case the Board or the Commissioners, or any of them respectively, or any of their respective Officers or Servants having the Custody of such Accounts, shall not permit the same Accounts to be inspected, or Copies of or

Rates levied not to exceed One Penny in the Pound.

Accounts of Board and Commissioners to be open to Inspection.

Extracts from the same to be made, every Person so offending shall for every such offence forfeit any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

Power to Council, &c. to borrow on Mortgage.

XVI. For carrying this Act into execution the Council, Board, or Commissioners respectively may, with the Approval of Her Majesty's Treasury, (and as to the Commissioners, with the Sanction also of the Vestry and the Poor Law Board,) from Time to Time borrow at Interest, on the Security of a Mortgage or Bond of the Borough Fund, or of the Rates levied in pursuance of this Act, such Sums of Money as may be by them respectively required; and the Commissioners for carrying into execution the Act of the Ninth and Tenth Years of Her Majesty, Chapter Eighty, may from Time to Time advance and lend any such sums of Money.

Provisions of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 16, as to borrowing extended to this Act.

XVII. The Clauses and Provisions of "The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," with respect to the borrowing of Money on Mortgage or Bond, and the Accountability of Officers, and the Recovery of Damages and Penalties, so far as such Provisions may respectively be applicable to the Purposes of this Act, shall be respectively incorporated with this Act.

Lands, &c. may be appropriated, purchased or rented for the purposes of this Act.

XVIII. The Council of any Borough and the Board of any District respectively may from Time to Time, with the Approval of Her Majesty's Treasury, appropriate for the Purposes of this Act any Lands vested, as the Case may be, in a Borough, in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses, and in a District in the Board, and the Council, Board and Commissioners respectively may also, with such Approval, purchase or rent any Lands or any suitable Buildings; and the Council and Board and Commissioners respectively may, upon any Lands so appropriated, purchased, or rented respectively, erect any Buildings suitable for Public Libraries or Museums, or both, or for Schools for Science or Art, and may apply, take down, alter, and extend any Buildings for such Purposes, and rebuild, repair, and improve the same respectively, and fit up, furnish, and supply the same respectively with all requisite Furniture, Fittings, and Conveniences.

8 & 9 Vict. c. 18 incorporated.

XIX. "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," shall be incorporated with this Act; but the Council,

Board, and Commissioners respectively shall not purchase or take any Lands otherwise than by Agreement.

XX. The Council, Board, and Commissioners aforesaid respectively may, with the like Approval as is required for the Purchase of Lands, sell any Lands vested in the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses, or Board or Commissioners respectively, for the Purposes of this Act, or exchange the same for any Lands better adapted for the Purposes; and the Monies to arise from such Sale or to be received for Equality of Exchange, or a sufficient part thereof, shall be applied in or towards the Purchase of other Lands better adapted for such Purposes.

Lands, &c.
may be
sold or ex-
changed.

XXI. The general Management, Regulation and Control of such Libraries and Museums, Schools for Science and Art, shall be, as to any Borough, vested in and exercised by the Council, and as to any District in and by the Board, and as to any Parish or Parishes in and by the Commissioners, or such Committee as such Council or Board may from Time to Time appoint, the Members whereof need not be Members of the Council or Board or be Commissioners, who may from Time to Time purchase and provide the necessary Fuel, Lighting, and other similar Matters, Books, Newspapers, Maps, and Specimens of Art and Science, for the Use of the Library or Museum, or School, and cause the same to be bound or repaired when necessary, and appoint salaried Officers and Servants, and dismiss the same, and make Rules and Regulations for the Safety and Use of the Libraries and Museums, and Schools, and for the Admission of the Public.

General
Management to be
vested in
Council,
Board, or
Commis-
sioners.

XXII. The Lands and Buildings so to be appropriated, purchased, or rented as aforesaid, and all other Real and Personal Property whatever presented to or purchased for any Library or Museum established under this Act, or School, shall be vested, in the Case of a Borough, in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses, in the Case of a District in the Board, and in the Case of a Parish or Parishes in the Commissioners.

Property of
Library, &c.
to be
vested in
Council, &c.

XXIII. If any Meeting called as aforesaid to determine as to the Adoption of this Act for any Borough, District, or Parish shall determine against the Adoption, no Meeting for a similar Purpose shall be held for the Space of One

If Meeting
does not
adopt Act, no
other Meet-
ing to be held
for a Year.

Year at least from the time of holding the previous Meeting.

Act may be adopted in the City of London if Two Thirds of Persons rated to the Consolidated Rate, assembled at a Public Meeting, assent.

XXIV. The Lord Mayor of the City of *London* shall, on the Request of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of *London*, in Common Council assembled, convene a Public Meeting in manner herein-before mentioned of all Persons rated and assessed to the Consolidated Rate in the City of *London*, in order to determine whether this Act shall be adopted in the said City ; and if at such Meeting Two Thirds of such Persons then present shall determine that this Act ought to be adopted for the City of *London*, the same shall thenceforth take effect and come into operation in the City of *London*, and shall be carried into execution in accordance with the Laws for the Time being in force relating to the City of *London* : Provided always, that the Resolution of such Public Meeting, signed by the Lord Mayor, shall be reported to the said Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons, in Common Council assembled, and entered on the Minutes thereof, and that such Entry shall be Evidence ; the Expenses incurred in calling and holding the Meeting, whether this Act shall be adopted or not, and the Expenses of carrying this Act into execution in the City of *London*, shall be paid out of the Consolidated Rate, and the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of *London* may levy a part of the Consolidated Rate, or, by a separate Rate, to be assessed and recovered in like Manner as the Consolidated Rate, all Monies from Time to Time necessary for defraying such Expenses, and distinct Accounts shall be kept of the Receipts, Payments, and Liabilities of the said Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons with reference to the Execution of the Act.

Museums to be free.

XXV. The Admission to all Libraries and Museums established under this Act shall be open to the Public free of all Charge.

Extent of Act.

XXVI. This Act shall not extend to *Ireland* or *Scotland*.

29^o and 30^o VICTORIÆ, Cap. cxiv.

An Act to amend the "Public Libraries Act." [10th August, 1866.]

' WHEREAS it is expedient to amend "The Public Libraries Act, 1855," and to assimilate the Laws relating to Public Libraries in *England* and *Scotland* : Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same as follows :

1. So much of the Section Fifteen of the said "Public Libraries Act, 1855," as incorporates with that Act certain Clauses of "The Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847," shall, so far as the same relates to or concerns Municipal Boroughs, be repealed. 18 & 19 Vict. c. 95.
Towns Improvement Clauses Act not to apply to Boroughs.

2. Section Five of the said Act, except so much thereof as relates to keeping distinct Accounts, shall be repealed ; and the Expenses incurred in calling and holding the Meeting, whether the said Act shall be adopted or not, and the Expenses of carrying the said Act into execution in any Municipal Borough, may be paid out of the Borough Rate of such Borough, or by and out of a Rate to be made and recovered in such Borough, in like manner as a Borough Rate may be made and recovered therein, but the Amount so paid in such Borough in any One Year shall not exceed the sum of One Penny in the Pound upon the annual Value of the Property in such Borough rateable to a Borough Rate : Provided always, that nothing in this Act shall interfere with the Operation of the Act Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth *Victoria*, Chapter One hundred and eight, so far as it relates to the Collection of a Rate for a Public Library in the City of *Oxford*. Part of Sec. 5 of recited Act repealed. Expenses of executing Act in Boroughs to be paid out of Borough Fund.

3. The Public Meeting mentioned in Section 4 of the said "Public Libraries Act, 1855," shall be called either on the Request of the Town Council, or on the Request in Writing of Ten Ratepayers residing in the Borough. Calling of Meeting in Boroughs.

4. Any Parish, of whatever Population, adjoining any Borough, District, or Parish which shall have adopted or shall contemplate the Adoption of the said "Public Li- Parishes adjoining a Borough, &c., may unite in adopting Act.

braries Act, 1855," may, with the Consent of more than One Half of the Ratepayers thereof present at a Meeting to be convened in manner directed by the said Act with reference to Meetings of Ratepayers, and with the Consent also of the Town Council of such Borough, or the Board of such District, or the Commissioners of such Parish, as the Case may be, determine that such adjoining Parish shall for the Purposes of the said Act form Part of such Borough, District, or Parish, and thereupon the Vestry of such adjoining Parish shall forthwith appoint Three Ratepayers Commissioners for such Parish, One Third of whom shall go out of Office, and the Vacancies be filled up as provided by the said Act with respect to the Commissioners of a Parish, and such Commissioners for the Time being shall for the Purposes of the said Act be considered as Part of such Town Council, Board or Commissioners as the Case may be; and the Expenses of calling the Meeting, and the Proportion of the Expenses of such adjoining Parish of carrying the said Act into execution, shall be paid out of the Poor Rates thereof to such Person as the Commissioners of the said adjoining Parish shall appoint to receive the same.

Majority for
Adoption of
Act.

5. The Majority necessary to be obtained for the Adoption of the said Act or "The Public Libraries Act (*Scotland*), 1854," shall be more than One Half of the Persons present at the Meeting, instead of Two Thirds of such Persons as now required.

Act applica-
ble whatever
Population
may be.

6. "The Public Libraries Act (1855)" and "The Public Libraries Act (*Scotland*) (1854)" shall be applicable to any Borough, District, or Parish or Burgh, of whatever Population.

17 & 18 Vict.
c. 64 ss. 6, 7,
8, repealed.

7. So much of Section 6 of "The Public Libraries Act (*Scotland*), 1854," as authorizes the demanding of a Poll, and Sections Seven and Eight of the said Act, are hereby repealed.

If Burgh
declines Act,
no further
Meeting for a
Year.

8. If any Meeting called as provided by the said last-mentioned Act shall determine against the Adoption of the Act in any Burgh, no Meeting for a similar Purpose shall be held for the Space of One Year at least from the Time of holding the previous Meeting.

9. The Clauses and Provisions of "The Companies Parts of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 17. extended 17 & 18t Vict. c. 64. Clauses Consolidation (*Scotland*) Act (1845)" with respect to the borrowing of Money upon Mortgage or Bond, and the Accountability of Officers, and the Recovery of Damages and Penalties, so far as such Provisions may respectively be applicable to the Purposes of the said "Public Libraries Act (*Scotland*) (1854)," shall be respectively incorporated with that Act.

10. Wherever a Public Museum or Library has been established under any Act relating to Public Libraries or Museums, or shall hereafter be established under either of the said before-mentioned Acts, a Public Library or Museum, as the Case may be, may at any Time be established in connexion therewith without any further Proceedings being taken under the said Acts. A Library, &c. may be established in connexion with any Museum, &c.

11. This Act may be cited as "The Public Libraries Short Title. Amendment Act (*England and Scotland*), 1866," and shall be taken to be Part of the said "Public Libraries Act, 1855," and shall be construed accordingly.

APPENDIX II.

RULES AND REGULATIONS SUITABLE FOR FREE LIBRARIES,

With Forms in Use, etc.

FREE LENDING LIBRARIES.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. The Chief Librarian shall have the general charge of the Libraries, and shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the books, and of all other property belonging thereto.

2. The Newsrooms shall be open to the Public, every day (Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday excepted), from Nine o'clock a.m., to Ten o'clock p.m., and the Library from Ten o'clock a.m., to Nine o'clock p.m.

3. No person shall be admitted who is in a state of intoxication ; nor shall any audible conversation be permitted in the Rooms ; nor shall any person be allowed to partake of refreshments therein. Any person who shall offend against these regulations, or shall be guilty of any misconduct, shall not be allowed to remain within the building.

4. No person shall be allowed to pass within the enclosure of the Libraries, or to take any book from the shelves, except by permission of the Librarian.

5. Persons enrolled as Burgesses of the Borough of shall be entitled to borrow books on their own responsibility. Persons not so enrolled shall be required to obtain the signature of one Burgess to the following voucher, which must be renewed annually :

“I, the undersigned, being a Burgess of the Borough of
, declare that I believe

Occupation

age

of No.

to be a person to whom books may be

safely entrusted for perusal ; and I hereby undertake to replace or to pay the value of any book, belonging to the Corporation of _____, which shall be lost or materially injured by the said Borrower."

Any person having signed this engagement, who shall afterwards desire to withdraw from the same, must give notice thereof in writing to the Librarian, who will give a release as soon as he shall have ascertained that no loss has been incurred.

This voucher must be delivered to the Librarian three days before the first issue of books to the person recommended.

6. All books borrowed must be returned to the Libraries within the time specified on the respective covers, under a penalty of one penny for the whole or any portion of the first week, and one penny for each week or portion of a week afterwards.

7. The Librarian shall carefully examine, or cause to be examined, each book returned, and if the same be found to have sustained any injury or damage, he shall require the person to whom the same was delivered, or his guarantor, to pay the amount of damage or injury done, or otherwise to procure a new copy of the book of equal value, and in the latter case such person shall be entitled to the damaged copy on depositing the new one.

8. All books borrowed from the Libraries must be returned, irrespective of the time allowed for reading, at the half-yearly dates specified on the printed labels at the beginning of each book ; Borrowers neglecting to comply with this regulation will risk the forfeiture of their privilege of borrowing books.

9. Borrowers leaving town, or ceasing to use the Libraries, are requested to return their tickets to the Librarian, in order to have them cancelled, otherwise they and their guarantors will be held responsible for any book taken out in their names.

10. Borrowers, when they change their residence, are required to hand in their ticket with their present address to the Librarian, otherwise they will lose their right of borrowing books.

11. Borrowers are cautioned against losing their tickets, as they will be held responsible for any book or books that may be taken out of the Libraries in their names. When books are not had the ticket must be left with the Librarian.

12. No Borrower will be allowed to have more than one work at the same time.

13. No book can be renewed more than once, if required by another Borrower.

14. No Borrower will be allowed to make use of more than one of the Lending Libraries at the same time.

15. The Librarian shall have power to refuse Books to any Borrower who shall neglect to comply with the Rules and Regulations of the Library ; but any person so refused shall have liberty to appeal to the Library Committee.

By order.

Librarian.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF THE
REFERENCE LIBRARY.

No person will be allowed to obtain any Book without signing a "Reader's Ticket," and such signature shall be taken and considered to be an assent to the Rules and Regulations of the Library.

Readers giving a false name and address will be held responsible for the consequences.

Readers cannot obtain more than one work on the same Ticket.

It is expressly forbidden to take out of the Reading Room any Book, Map, Manuscript, or other article belonging to the Library, or to write or make any marks upon the same.

Readers desirous of proposing Books for addition to the Library, or of making any suggestion as to its management, may do so by writing the same in a Suggestion Book, which is regularly submitted to the Committee for consideration.

No person will be admitted to the Library who is intoxicated, or in a dirty condition ; nor will any conversation be permitted in the room.

No person is allowed to pass within the enclosure, except by special permission of the Librarian.

Persons under fourteen years of age are not admitted to the Reference Library, except for special purposes to be determined by the Librarian.

The costly Illustrated Works are issued only on written application to the Committee.

FORM OF VOUCHER FOR GENERAL PUBLIC.

Books can be had out only by Persons Rated for, Resident in, or Employed in the Borough.
 This Voucher must be signed by a Burgess who is enrolled on the Burgess List of the Borough of
 Inattention to
 , Chief Librarian.

By Order,

FREE LIBRARIES.

I, the undersigned, being a Burgess of the Borough of _____, declare that I believe
 occupation, _____ to be a person to whom

aged _____ of No. _____
 Books may be safely entrusted for perusal; and I hereby undertake to replace or pay the value of any Book belonging
 to the CORPORATION OF _____ which shall be lost or materially injured by the said Borrower.

GUARANTOR'S NAME.	OCCUPATION.	ADDRESS.	WARD.

Dated this _____ day of _____ 1868.

The Library is open for the issue and return of Books daily, between the hours of TEN in the Morning and NINE in the Evening, uninterruptedly.

Vouchers in due form, are received at the Library at any time between the hours of TEN in the Morning and NINE in the Evening; and if on examination they be found correct, Tickets will be issued on the FOURTH DAY after the Receipt of the Vouchers.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Borrowers are cautioned against losing their Ticket, as they and the Guarantors will be held responsible for any Book that may be taken out with such Ticket.

When the person who has signed this engagement shall desire to withdraw from it, he must give notice "thereof in writing to the Librarian, who will give a release as soon as he shall have ascertained that no liability has been incurred."

No.

FORM OF VOUCHER FOR BURGESSES.

FREE LIBRARIES.

LENDING LIBRARY,

I, the undersigned, being a Burgess of the Borough of _____, hereby make application to the Free Libraries Committee for A BORROWER'S TICKET, entitling me to borrow Books from LENDING LIBRARY; and I undertake to be responsible for any loss the CORPORATION OF _____ may sustain by loss or damage of any Book in my possession.

Signed, _____

NAME OF APPLICANT.	ADDRESS OF APPLICANT.	OCCUPATION OF APPLICANT.

Personal Application must be made for the Ticket.

10

BORROWER'S CARD. *Front.*

Free Libraries.

Branch (or Central) Library

Not Transferable.

No. _____

The Bearer _____

of _____

is entitled to borrow Books.

Chief Librarian.

_____, 186 .

BORROWER'S CARD. *Back.*

Free Libraries.

REGULATIONS OF THE LENDING DEPARTMENT.

No Book can be issued without the presentation of this Ticket.

Books lost or injured, while in the possession of Borrowers, must be replaced, or the amount chargeable for their loss or injury, must be paid by the Borrowers or their Guarantors.

Borrowers detaining Books beyond the time allowed for reading, will be fined One Penny for the whole or any portion of the first week, and One Penny for each week or portion of a week afterwards.

All Books borrowed from the Library must be returned on or before the LAST TUESDAY IN JUNE AND DECEMBER respectively, on pain of losing the privilege of borrowing in future.

Any person returning a Book without taking out another at the same time, must leave the Library Ticket with the Librarian until another Book is taken.

The Lending Departments are open for the delivery and return of Books from TEN o'clock in the Morning until NINE o'clock in the Evening.

By order,

Chief Librarian.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

BOOK RETURNED.

Title _____

Recd. by _____

Date _____

REFERENCE LIBRARY.—READER'S TICKET.

FREE LIBRARY.—REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.—READER'S TICKET.

<p>The Reader must write upon this Form the Title of the Book which he requires, as described in the Catalogue, together with his Signature, Address, Age, and Profession. The Catalogues must not be removed from the Tables upon which they lie. Further information may be obtained upon application to the Librarian. Every Reader, before leaving the room, must return the Book delivered to him, in exchange for which he will receive the annexed Receipt.</p>		<p>Attended to by</p>
<p>Title, etc., of Book requested _____</p>		<p>Replaced by</p>
<p>Signature _____</p>		
<p>Address _____</p>		
<p>Age _____</p>		
<p>Profession _____</p>		<p>N.B.—The Reader's Age and Profession are desired for the purpose of Statistical Informa- tion.</p>
<p>Ticket's Date, 186 _____</p>		



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Free libraries and newsrooms :

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